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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 521
By Turner (Shelby)

A RESOLUTION To honor Charles A. Leach, collector of antique
radios.

WHEREAS, The Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize and commend citizens of our State who work hard to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, Charles A. Leach III, who has amassed an amazing collection of antique radios, is one such exemplary citizen of our great State; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leach was born in Hartford, Kentucky on January 11, 1939, the son of Charles A. Leach, Jr. and Vonnie Leach; and

WHEREAS, While in high school, he developed a keen interest in Science and obtained an amateur radio license; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from high school in 1957, Mr. Leach joined the United States Air Force, attended Air Traffic Control and Warning School and was then transferred to Boron Air Force Station in California to serve as a radio operator; and

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WHEREAS, In June 1960, he was transferred to Fire Island, Alaska, where he served expertly as Head of the base's MARS station (Military Affiliate Radio System) and was base projectionist at the movie theater; and

WHEREAS, On completion of his duties in Alaska, Mr. Leach was Honorably Discharged and became a member of the Air Force Reserve; and

WHEREAS, He next entered college, graduating in 1973; while in college, he was a member of the engineering staff at WLTV/WBKO-TV, WKGB-TV and WLLS-AM; and

WHEREAS, In the mid-1960s, Mr. Leach was active in civil defense work and served with distinction as Civil Defense Director of Ohio County, Kentucky. He was also active in the Civil Air Patrol and amateur radio and joined The Society of Broadcast Engineers and The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers; and

WHEREAS, In late 1973, he accepted a job with ARO Inc., (later called Sverdrup Technology), a firm that was a contract operator with Arnold Engineering Development Center at Arnold Air Force Base in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, During the next twenty-six years, Mr. Leach worked on many exciting jet engine testing projects for the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, His important job as an instrumentation and control engineer included systems installation of jet engines in jet engine test cells and testing with electronic data acquisition equipment to measure and record the operating parameters of these engines; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leach was also active in IEEE, serving as Chair for the Middle Tennessee Section from 1994-1999; and

WHEREAS, He retired from Arnold Engineering and Development Center in July, 1999, having been highly praised for his strong work ethic and professional excellence; and

WHEREAS, Since retirement, Charles A. Leach III has continued his fine work with amateur radio and also collects antique radios and equipment; he is presently collecting items to create an old-fashioned soda shop in his basement; and

WHEREAS, He is also a life member of the American Radio Relay League and the Quarter-Century Wireless Association; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to honor and commend Charles A. Leach III, a man who has made history come alive for all those fortunate enough to view his great collection and display; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Charles A. Leach III and wish him much happy collecting in the field of antique radios.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.